



Veterans Advisory Board

April 23, 2009 – 7:00 P.M. – **Minutes**
City Hall – Ashley Room – 1st Floor

View Agenda

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Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM by Chairman Bob Bromley

Pledge of Allegiance: By Mr. Crisanto Dos Santos

Roll call of Members: Two members were absent with excuse Mr. Ostiguy and Mr. Clark two others were absent Mr. Duarte and Ms. Mascarenhas.

Reading of minutes from previous meeting: By the Secretary Mr. Le Blanc *Motion* was made to accept the minutes by Mr. Prescott seconded by Mr. Nadeau *Motion passed.*

Committee Reports: None

Unfinished Business: Memorial Day activities were discussed by Mr. Le Blanc stated that the Memorial Day grave flags were to be delivered tomorrow to the Waldron Barracks and that the Memorial Day wreaths are to be delivered to his office by May 11, 2009.

Other ceremonies on Memorial Day reported to Mr. Le Blanc were as follows: The American Legion ceremonies are as follows: Sunday, May 24, 2009 10:30 AM, Pine Grove Cemetery, Noon, City Hall Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Monday May 25, 2009, 8:15 AM, Rural Cemetery, 10:00 AM, St. Mary's Cemetery, 11:00 Memorial Day Parade.

Also reported that on Thursday, May 21, 2009 Pine Grove Cemetery will be flagged at 9:00 AM rain date will be Friday, May 22, 2009.

Motion made by Mr. Nadeau to **recommend** to the Mayor that he correspond with the New Bedford Veterans Council recommending that the Mayor's Veterans' Advisory Committee assume the responsibilities for the dispensing of the Memorial Day grave flags and memorial wreaths as well as the Memorial Day and Veterans' Day Parade organization seconded by Mr. DosSantos **motion passed.**

License plates – Mr. Le Blanc brought to the attention of the Committee that this subject was brought to the attention of the City Council two years ago action was taken by them and rejected by the local Representative delegation. No further action on this was recommended.

WWII Vacancy - Mr. Joseph Gendron was recommended to the City Council by the Mayor for appointment to this Committee. City Council will take action on his recommendation.

Reading of Communications: By Mr. Bromley

New Business: Exercise Tiger ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, May 24, 2009 at 11:00 AM at Ft. Taber Park. Mr. Bromley reported that the Fort Taber/Fort Rodman Historical Society will join the

Exercise Tiger organization as a member so as to maintain there solidarity in light of the age and passing of their members.

Armed Forces Day ceremony – Mr. Le Blanc reported that he would be attending a organizational meeting at Mc Coy Stadium in Pawtucket tomorrow. The event is the 30th Armed Forces Day Ceremony to be held there. Last year New Bedford was represented by the Vietnam Veterans of America, New Bedford Chapter 499 and will be again this year. Mr. Le Blanc will obtain tickets and will send out information for the June 16, 2009 event. Ticket price is \$3.50 each.

National Personnel Records Center – Mr. Le Blanc reported on the ability to obtain military records as well as medals and ribbons through his office.

Information – Mr. LE Blanc asked the members if they desired to receive information related to veteran matters if so, he would forward these items as he receives them via e-mail. The Committee agreed with this suggestion.

Mr. Morin reported that Mr. Joe Theodore is now home.

Mr. Bromley reported on the Fort Taber/Fort Rodman activities and their Newsletter. A discussion was held regarding the reestablishment of the “Veterans Corner” weekly news article in the Standard-Times newspaper that was discontinued some years ago. ***Motion*** made by Mr. L’Heureux seconded by Mr. Dos Santos. The committee unanimously recommended to the Mayor that he request that this be reinstituted by the Standard-Times ***Motion passed.***

Recommendations to the Mayor:

#1 - That the Mayor send a request to the New Bedford Veterans Council asking that the responsibilities for the Memorial Day burial flags and wreaths as well as the Memorial Day and Veterans’ Day parades become the responsibilities of the Mayor’s Veterans’ Advisory Committee.

#2 - That the Mayor request that the Standard-Times newspaper reinstate the weekly “Veterans Corner” news article.

Good of the Order: ***Motion*** to adjourn made by Mr. Dos Santos seconded by Mr. Prescott. ***Motion passed.***

Next meeting will be held May 28, 2009.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:21 PM

Respectfully submitted by,

Donat J. “Dan” Le Blanc
Secretary